

From: David Sternberg/R3/USEPA/US
Sent: 1/11/2012 2:29:44 PM
To: Roy Seneca/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
CC:
Subject: Fw: Dimock Inquiry

----- Forwarded by David Sternberg/R3/USEPA/US on 01/11/2012 05:29 PM -----

From: David Sternberg/R3/USEPA/US
To: p.bertrand@ibtimes.com
Date: 01/06/2012 03:20 PM
Subject: Dimock Inquiry

Hi Pierre,

EPA has recently received and reviewed hundreds of pages of Cabot data supplied to the Agency by Dimock residents. While EPA is not in a position to make any conclusions about the data we have in hand because there are gaps, we believe that additional information is needed to better understand the situation in Dimock and respond appropriately. Therefore, EPA is considering next steps including conducting some sampling of well water in the area. We will evaluate the sampling results and share them with the residents, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Cabot.

We started visiting Dimock residences on Dec. 29th to begin filling these information gaps about their drinking water supply and to ask residents to complete a well survey. We will use the information to determine what, if any, next steps are needed. Next steps being considered could include taking some samples from private drinking water wells.

Natural gas plays a key role in our nation's clean energy future and the Obama Administration is committed to ensuring that the development of this vital resource occurs safely and responsibly. At the direction of Congress, and separate from these activities in Dimock, EPA has begun a national study on the potential impacts of hydraulic fracturing on drinking water resources.

David Sternberg
Press Officer
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